GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4084
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
AUCTION SYSTEM BY TOBACCO BOARD
GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco Board introduced the auctions system in the year 1984;

(b) if so, whether even after 15 years experience in tobacco grading, more than 50% of tobacco bales that are coming to auction floor were marked as mixed, saline and poor graded because of poor grading system; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for grading and sale of properly graded tobacco irrespective of market prices?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): No, Sir. The percentage of mixed grades in the total quantity marketed varies from 25% to 35%. The Tobacco Board is taking steps to educate its field staff as well as the tobacco growers on the grading standards. The growers are also being educated about the need for proper grading of bales so as to secure better prices.